

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

TELETYPE INFORMATION REPORT

VIA TAPE
EQM-1906

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CLASSIFICATION S-E-C-R-E-T		DISSEMINATION CONTROLS NOFORN CONTINUED CONTROL	
TDCS -3/403,826		DATE DISTR. 26 JUNE 1959	PRECEDENCE <input type="checkbox"/> ROUTINE <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> PRIORITY TO OCI
COUNTRY WEST GERMANY		PLACE ACQUIRED GERMANY, MUNICH/13 JUNE 59	
SUBJECT RECENT ADENAUER POLITICAL DECISIONS			
DATE OF INFORMATION 10 JUNE 59		REFERENCES	
APPRAISAL OF CONTENT (Tentative) 2 FOR REPORTORIAL ACCURACY			
SOURCE EVALUATION (Definitive) WESTERN NEWS CORRESPONDENT /C/ FROM PERSONAL CONTACT WITH HEINRICH KRONE AND GERHARD SCHRÖDER, AND VERIFIED BY CONVERSATIONS WITH LESSER CDU/CSU FUNCTIONARIES.			
<p>1. THE REAL REASON BEHIND CHANCELLOR ADENAUER'S DECISION TO REMAIN BUNDESKANZLER WAS NOT HIS CONVICTION THAT THE WORLD POLITICAL SITUATION HAD WORSENER. HIS DECISION WAS BASED ON A DEEP-SEATED CONVICTION THAT ERHARD IS NOT QUALIFIED TO SUCCEED HIM. ALTHOUGH HE WOULD PERSONALLY HAVE PREFERRED TO SEE FRANZ ETZEL AS HIS SUCCESSOR, HE WOULD HAVE COMPROMISED AND ACCEPTED KRONE OR PERHAPS OTHER SUITABLE CANDIDATES. ADENAUER DECIDED TO BECOME THE CANDIDATE FOR PRESIDENT UNDER THE ILLUSION THAT THE PARTY FRACTION WOULD ACCEPT HIS RECOMMENDATION THAT ETZEL BE SUPPORTED FOR THE CHANCELLORSHIP. HE NOW VIEWS IT AS A</p>			
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TO: ACIL AF, NAVY, JCS, OSD, STATE, NSA, OCI, ONE, OOR, ORR

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
SOURCE/METHOD/EXEMPTION 3B2B
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT
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<p>VIA TAPE</p> <p>MISTAKE THAT HE DID NOT OBTAIN FIRM COMMITMENTS ON THE SUPPORT OF ETZEL FROM CDU/CSU LEADERS PRIOR TO HIS ANNOUNCED DECISION TO RUN FOR PRESIDENT.</p> <p>2. THERE ARE NO SERIOUS OR SIGNIFICANT DIFFERENCES IN THE POLITICAL VIEWS OF ADENAUER AND ERHARD. ADENAUER HONESTLY AND SINCERELY DOUBTS THAT ERHARD HAS THE COMPETENCE AND SERIOUSNESS TO HANDLE ADMINISTRATIVELY THE JOB OF CHANCELLOR. HE FEELS THAT ERHARD HAS SHOWN HIMSELF TO BE REMARKABLY UNINFORMED POLITICALLY AT SEVERAL RECENT CABINET MEETINGS. AS AN EXAMPLE, THE CHANCELLOR DISTRIBUTED SOME DOCUMENTS DURING A MEETING WITH HIS CABINET SHORTLY PRIOR TO HIS DEPARTURE FOR SECRETARY DULLES' FUNERAL. HE ASKED EACH TO EXAMINE THE PAPERS, WHICH INCLUDED INSTRUCTIONS TO AMBASSADOR GREWE IN GENEVA AND BE PREPARED TO COMMENT ON THEM AT A CABINET MEETING SCHEDULED FOR THE FOLLOWING DAY. THE NEXT DAY ERHARD ARRIVED AN HOUR LATE AND WAS THE ONLY MINISTER UNPREPARED TO COMMENT ON THE MATTER. HE STATED THAT HE HAD NOT FOUND TIME TO READ THE MATERIAL. ADENAUER SHARPLY REPROACHED HIM, TELLING HIM THAT '... HIS LAPSE WAS IMPOSSIBLE FOR A VICE-CHANCELLOR.' AFTER THIS MEETING ADENAUER TOLD KRONE THAT HE 'MUST NOW REACH A FINAL DECISION, AND THAT HE COULD NOT STEP OUT IF IT MEANT THAT ERHARD WOULD GET THE CHANCELLORSHIP.'</p>		
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<p>3. ADENAUER HAS CONTRASTED ERHARD WITH SECRETARY DULLES TO HIS CLOSE CONFIDANTS. HE HAS COMMENTED THAT SECRETARY DULLES WAS ALWAYS PREPARED DOWN TO THE LAST DETAIL WHEN HE ATTENDED A MEETING. THIS IS NOT SO OF ERHARD. THE CHANCELLOR HAS DESCRIBED ERHARD AS 'TOO LAZY, COMFORTABLE, AND DUMB.'</p> <p>4. KRONE, SCHRÖDER, AND OTHER CLOSE FRIENDS OF THE CHANCELLOR ARE CONVINCED THAT HIS MISTRUST OF ERHARD STEMS TO A CONSIDERABLE EXTENT FROM HIS FEELING THAT ERHARD HAS ONLY A SUPERFICIAL CONCEPT OF THE SIGNIFICANCE AND IMPORTANCE OF NATO. SINCE HIS LAST TALK WITH SECRETARY DULLES, ADENAUER IS CONVINCED THAT GERMANY WILL HAVE TO SHARE AN INCREASING CONTRIBUTION TO NATO'S MILITARY STRENGTH DURING THE COMING YEARS. ADDITIONAL DIVISIONS AND ARMAMENTS WILL CUT INTO THE WEST GERMAN NATIONAL BUDGET. KRONE REFERRED OFF-HANDLY TO PRESENT DEFENSE COMMITMENTS AMOUNTING TO AROUND FIVE PER CENT OF THE BUDGET, AS COMPARED TO SOME SIXTEEN PER CENT IN THE UNITED STATES. BOTH STRAUSS AND ETZEL AGREE WITH THE CHANCELLOR THAT THE FUTURE NATO SUPPORT WILL TAKE A BIGGER SLICE OF THE WEST GERMAN NATIONAL INCOME. ERHARD, ON THE OTHER HAND, DISMISSED THIS OPINION WITH THE REMARK THAT INTERNATIONAL TENSIONS APPEAR TO BE DIMINISHING AND THAT EVEN EXISTING DEFENSE EXPENDITURES COULD BE TAPERED OFF. ADENAUER COMMENTED LATER THAT THIS VIEW POINT DEMONSTRATED ERHARD'S</p>			
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<p>INABILITY TO RECOGNIZE IMPORTANT PROBLEMS AND UNDERSTAND INTERNATIONAL REALITIES./SOURCE COMMENT- KRONE CITED ERHARD'S BEHAVIOR SINCE THE ADENAUER ANNOUNCEMENT OF HIS DECISION TO REMAIN AS CHANCELLOR IN SUPPORT OF ADENAUER'S OPINION THAT ERHARD LACKS THE BACKBONE TO STAND ALONE OR PURSUE A STEADY COURSE AGAINST OPPOSITION. WITHIN ADENAUER'S IMMEDIATE CIRCLE IT IS STATED THAT, HAD ADENAUER BEEN IN ERHARD'S POSITION, HE WOULD HAVE RESIGNED LONG SINCE AS MINISTER OF ECONOMICS./</p> <p>5. ON THE QUESTION OF THE LONG RANGE EFFECTS OF HIS DECISION TO REMAIN CHANCELLOR, ADENAUER OBSERVED THAT THE FUROR WILL SUBSIDE BY AUTUMN, AND BY THEN THERE WILL BE WIDESPREAD AGREEMENT THAT HIS DECISION WAS CORRECT.</p> <p>FIELD COMMENT - SOURCE, WHO IS OBVIOUSLY STAUNCHLY PRO-ADENAUER, HAS KNOWN ERHARD SINCE UNIVERSITY DAYS. HE AGREES COMPLETELY WITH THE CHANCELLOR'S ASSESSMENT OF ERHARD.</p> <p>HEADQUARTERS COMMENT: EVALUATION BY STATE REQUESTED.</p> <p>FIELD DISTRIBUTION: STATE, ARMY END OF MESSAGE INTELOFAX CODED BY OCR</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td><u>SUBJECT</u></td> <td><u>AREA</u></td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>103.2</td> <td>44/D</td> <td>W GERMANY</td> </tr> <tr> <td>171.4</td> <td>44/D</td> <td>W GERMANY</td> </tr> <tr> <td>181.6f</td> <td>68/A (Q1)</td> <td>NATO (W GERMANY)</td> </tr> </table>				<u>SUBJECT</u>	<u>AREA</u>		103.2	44/D	W GERMANY	171.4	44/D	W GERMANY	181.6f	68/A (Q1)	NATO (W GERMANY)
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